

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE (VIA POUCH)

USDOCOSOUTH

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR (VIA POUCH)

S E C R E T USNATO 5263

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/81

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR WORKING GROUP MEETING OCTOBER 30: DISCUSSION OF DATA

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: A) STATE 211555; B) STATE 214077

SUMMARY: AT ITS OCTOBER 30 MEETING, WORKING GROUP WELCOMED U.S. REP'S SUBMISSION OF DETAILED NATIONAL BREAKDOWNS FOR NATO AND WP FORCE LEVELS, AS PROVIDED BY REF A. AGREEMENT REACHED THAT WG SHOULD NOW UNDERTAKE URGENT EFFORT TO RECONCILE NEW U.S. FIGURES WITH CURRENTLY AVAILABLE AND/OR AGREED NATO DATA. IN THE PROCESS, WG WILL ATTEMPT TO STATE CLEARLY FOR FUTURE REFERENCE BASIS ON
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WHICH FIGURES ARE COMPUTED. WG SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED FURTHER EXPLANATIONS FROM U.S. ON EXISTING DISCREPANCIES.
END SUMMARY.

1. WORKING GROUP REPS FOUND NEW U.S. DETAILED DATA HELPFUL CONTRIBUTION IN EXPLAINING PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED OVERALL NATO/WP FIGURES FOR MANPOWER AND TANK HOLDINGS. UK REP (LLOYD) SUGGESTED THAT WG SHOULD NOW MAKE EARLY EFFORT TO EXPLAIN TO POLITICAL AUTHORITIES HOW TOTAL FIGURES RECENTLY SUPPLIED TO VIENNA WERE ARRIVED AT, WHAT WAS AND WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THESE FIGURES, AND WHAT UNSTATED ASSUMPTIONS ACCOUNT FOR REMAINING DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN NATO AGREED AND LATEST U.S. FIGURES. CHAIRMAN (MINTER) FOUND THIS USEFUL SUGGESTION, AND RELYING ON LATEST U.S. FIGURES FOR SOVIET AND NSWP FORCE LEVELS AND TANK HOLDINGS, FELT THAT HE COULD MAKE AN EARLY REPORT TO SPC.

2. FRG DATA EXPERT (SCHMIDTBAUER) STATED THAT FRG WAS PREPARED TO ACCEPT OVERALL FIGURE OF 925,000 FOR TOTAL PACT FORCES IN NGA, PROVIDED THAT U.S. COULD SUPPLY MORE DETAILS FOR AN EXACT COUNTING IN DUE COURSE. FRG COULD NOT ACCEPT, HOWEVER, FIGURE FOR 15,500 WG TANKS BECAUSE RESULT OF LATEST FRG ANALYSIS INDICATED THAT THERE WERE SUBSTANTIALLY MORE TANKS IN NGA, BOTH IN LINE UNITS AS WELL AS IN STORAGE AND/OR COLOCATED POSITIONS. (DETAILS USNATO 5223 NOTAL). U.S. FIGURE IS THEREFORE IN FRG VIEW A SUBSTANTIAL UNDERESTIMATION OF TOTAL WP TANKS IN NGA. AT U.S. REP'S REQUEST RE FRG ESTIMATED NUMBER, DATA EXPERT INDICATED IT WAS APPROXIMATELY 20,000. AS TO OTHER U.S. FIGURES, DATA EXPERT FOUND THEM GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE ALTHOUGH HE BELIEVED CLOSER ANALYSIS OF EXACT CURRENT NATO HOLDINGS ON DATA SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN.

3. OTHER REPS STATED THAT THEY COULD AGREE WITH U.S. FIGURES AS GENERAL MAGNITUDE ESTIMATES, BUT WISHED FURTHER EXPLANATIONS AS TO CONTINUING DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN U.S. DATA AND NATO AGREED TOE CONFERENCE FIGURES. CHAIRMAN THEREFORE STATED THAT PROBLEM WAS NOW HOW TO ARRANGE FOR ALLIED AGREEMENT ON A NEW SET OF FIGURES BASED ON U.S. INPUTS, TOGETHER WITH EARLY SUBMISSION OF ADDITIONAL JUSTIFICATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT PROBLEM OF SEEKING ALLIED AGREEMENT BE PUT TO DATA SUBGROUP, WHICH WOULD EVALUATE NATO DATA IN RELATION TO NEW U.S. FIGURES,-TOGETHER WITH THEIR EXPLANATIONS AND THEN SEEK APPROVAL FROM CAPITALS ON A TOTAL CONSOLIDATED PACKAGE. IN THIS MANNER, DIFFICULTY OF BRINGING TOGETHER NEW NATIONAL INTEL-
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LIGENCE VIEWS WOULD BE OVERCOME, AND NEED FOR A NEW TOE CONFERENCE COULD BE AVOIDED. IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE THIS EFFORT COHERENTLY, HOWEVER, HE STRESSED THAT FURTHER U.S. EXPLANATIONS WOULD NEED TO BE PERUSASIVE AND DETAILED.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, STAFF GROUP AGREED TO PREPARE NEW MILSTAM IN WHICH U.S. NATIONAL BREAKDOWN WOULD BE COMPARED TO CURRENT NATO HOLDINGS. THIS COMPARISON WOULD PROVIDE BASIS FOR CAPITALS TO INTRODUCE ANY VARIATIONS IN THEIR OWN NATIONAL FIGURES AND THEREBY LAUNCH EFFORT OF CONSOLITDATION AND CORROLATION IN DATA SUBGROUP. (WE WILL TRANSMIT MILSTAM TEXT WHEN RECEIVED.)

5. COMMENT: WG IS NOW LAUNCHED ON EFFORT

TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON A COMPLETE SET OF FIGURES FOR FUTURE USE
IN NEGOTIATIONS. IN ORDER TO PERSUADE ALLIES TO ACCEPT U.S.
FIGURES, WE SHALL NEED TO EXPLAIN NEW U.S. ESTIMATES FOR PACT
FORCES WERE DERIVED. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WILL MAKE FULL USE
OF HELPFUL EXPLANATIONS IN REF (B) RE NSWP FORCES AND WILL DRAW
ON THEM FULLY, IN DUE COURSE, (ESPECIALLY PARA 3 ON SCOPE OF TOE
CONFERENCE). WE ALSO APPRECIATE OFFER - PER PARA 9 - FOR BREAKOUT
OF POLISH AND GDR FORCES, WHICH WE WILL ASK FOR ONLY IF NECESSARY.
WE DO, HOWEVER, NEED EXPLANATION AS TO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TOE
CONFERENCE FIGURE FOR GSFG (351,000) AND NEW U.S. ESTIMATE OF 360,000
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AS TO NATO FORCE DATA, SEVERAL REPS POINTED OUT TO U.S. REP
FOLLOWING WG MEETING THAT THEIR CURRENT ESTIMATES OF OWN FORCES
DISAGRRED WITH CURRENT U.S. ESTIMATES FOR THESE FORCES. WHEN WE
RECEIVE NEW MILSTAM ON COMPARATIVE DATA TABLES, IT WILL BE NECESSARY
TO SHOW HOW U.S. FIGURES FOR ALLIED MANPOWER DIFFER FROM CURRENT NATO
FIGURES.
END COMMENT.
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